IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A kitchen sheet comprising a base sheet made of a fiber aggregate comprising a laminate ~~including~~ of a hydrophobic spun-bonded/hydrophobic melt-blown/hydrophobic spun-bonded nonwoven fabric ~~a hydrophobic melt-blown nonwoven fabric and a hydrophobic spun-bonded nonwoven fabric provided on at least one side of the hydrophobic fabric and to be brought into contact with food~~, said fiber aggregate having an air permeability of 5 cc/cm^2/sec or more as measured in accordance with JIS L1096A, said base sheet having a plurality of convex portions giving said kitchen sheet an apparent thickness of 1.0 mm or greater, and a compressive recovery of 30% or more, wherein the apparent thickness is between three to twenty times of a thickness of the base sheet, and said plurality of convex portions have peaks separated by 3.5 mm to 15 mm.

Claim 2 (Original): A kitchen sheet according to claim 1, wherein said base sheet has a water pressure resistance of 100 mmH_2O or more and less than 500 mmH_2O as measured in accordance with JIS L1092.

Claim 3 (Original): A kitchen sheet according to claim 1, wherein said base sheet has a water pressure of 500 mmH_2O or more as measured in accordance with JIS L1092.

Claims 4 and 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A kitchen sheet according to claim 1, wherein:

said fiber aggregate comprises a laminate having at least two layers; and

said at least two layers comprise a surface layer including a hydrophobic fiber material.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A kitchen sheet according to claim 2, wherein:

said base sheet is a laminate having at least two layers of a fiber aggregate; and

said at least two layers comprise a surface layer including a hydrophobic fiber material and an inner layer including a nonwoven fabric comprising an ultrafine hydrophobic fiber.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A kitchen sheet according to claim 3, wherein:

said base sheet is a laminate having at least two layers of a fiber aggregate; and -3-

said at least two layers comprise a surface layer including a hydrophobic fiber material and an inner layer including a nonwoven fabric comprising an ultrafine hydrophobic fiber.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a kitchen sheet comprising superposing a nonwoven fabric of a thermoplastic resin on at least one side of a sheet of a nonwoven fabric comprising an ultrafine hydrophobic fiber to obtain a base sheet having a water pressure resistance of 100 mmH_2O or more and less than 500 mmH_2O as measured in accordance with JIS L1092 and an air permeability of 5 $cc/cm^2/sec$ or more as measured in accordance with JIS L1096A and embossing the base sheet to impart unevenness so that the base sheet may have an apparent thickness of 1.0 mm or greater and a compressive recovery of 30% or more.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): A process for producing a kitchen sheet comprising superposing a nonwoven fabric of a thermoplastic resin on at least one side of a sheet of a nonwoven fabric comprising an ultrafine hydrophobic fiber to obtain a base sheet having a water pressure resistance of 500 mmH_2O or more as measured in accordance with JIS L1092 and an air permeability of 5 $cc/cm^2/sec$ or more as measured in accordance with JIS L1096A and embossing the base sheet to impart unevenness so that the base sheet may have an apparent thickness of 1.0 mm or greater and a compressive recovery of 30% or more.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A kitchen sheet according to claim 6, wherein the at least two layers further comprise at least one of a first inner layer including a nonwoven fabric comprising at least one of water absorbing fibers and oil absorbing fibers and a second inner layer including a nonwoven fabric comprising an ultrafine hydrophobic fiber.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A kitchen sheet according to claim 11, wherein the nonwoven fabric of the first inner layer comprises at least one of rayon, pulp and cotton.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A kitchen sheet according to claim 6, wherein the hydrophobic fiber material of the surface layer comprises a thermoplastic resin nonwoven fabric made of at least one resin selected from the group consisting of a polyolefin resin and a polyester resin.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A kitchen sheet according to claim 6, wherein the hydrophobic fiber material of the surface layer comprises a thermoplastic resin nonwoven fabric selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene terephthalate, and copolymers thereof.

Claim 15 (Canceled).